

Minutes of the Forum on Transportation Investment

9/27/04

Policy Contact Meeting

Attendees – John Ferguson, Dick Jacobson, J. R. Tassel, Ralph Gant, Tom Dale, Scott Burpee, Jim Kempton, John Watts, Chuck Winder, Bruce Sweeney, Monte McClure, Jack Combo, Bob Hardgrove, Duane Grant, Roger Seiber, Dan Charboneau, Bob Martin, Dwight Bower and recorder Susan Bale.

Dwight opened the meeting by reviewing binder items. Additional items were discussed.

- Future meeting dates and cities that they will be held were reviewed. The next meeting date was suggested as February 3, 2005, but this date will likely to be changed to sometime in January. We will try not to conflict with the legislative session.
- Meeting times for Boise meetings should be 9 AM to 4 PM; other meetings in Twin Falls, Pocatello, Coeur d' Alene should be 10 AM to 4 PM.
- Future meetings are planned to be held in hotel meeting facilities that have easy parking access and lunch catering. Mayor Dale volunteered the Nampa Civic Center as a possible meeting site.
- Professional group may meet 1-2 times prior to the Policy meeting to synthesize information and suggest meeting agenda items.
- Whenever possible, minutes, updates, and other information will be sent electronically. All information will be sent as soon as available. Information pertaining to a specific meeting will be sent at least 10 days prior to the meeting. The 'Needs Projections' information should be sent as soon as available.
- Membership list will be open to additional members, especially those who were unable to attend this meeting. Legislator Leon Smith was suggested as an addition.
- Telephone conferencing may be a possibility for discussion of certain topics.
- For questions, information requests, and other problems, please contact H. W. Lochner @ 336-2083. We plan to supply you with as much depth or summaries as you need/want.

It was announced that Jim Kempton has agreed to Chair this Forum group. A discussion as to who could serve as Vice Chair was held, with Tom Dale agreeing to accept this position.

Jim reiterated several items that he felt would help this Forum.

- The public is demanding roads and bridges be built in a timely and efficient manner. Whenever a project is drawn out or public inconvenience is too great, they are very critical of the process. We need to get their consensus as to what our restrictions are (whether monetary or process or other time-consuming delays) before beginning the actual building.
- The forum can't think like a legislator or let their restrictions influence our recommendations. We need to look at the full spectrum of possibilities and then mold a set of recommendations. The legislature is willing to consider changes if and when things require different methods.

- The Forum should investigate innovative methods and cover as many areas as possible. The Forum should generate information about the seriousness of our deteriorating transportation infrastructure and the need for improvements and restructure.

Several people volunteered to either supply reports or speak to various subjects that they are involved with.

- RTTF – Kirk Sullivan, John Watts, Tom Dale, Dave Butzier
- Current Financial Tools – GARVEE Bonding, Impact Fees. ACHD has experience with Impact Fees.
- Interim Legislative Committee on Public Transportation and Environmental Concerns will be out shortly. Public Transportation funding is one of the items in the report. Roger Seiber is on the committee.
- Lance Giles has some information on Transportation Needs. He will see about getting this by the Pocatello meeting.
- Bob Martin reported that Aeronautics is considering establishing a Forum about Aviation. They want to gather information about regional airport needs, and how to address declining revenues. The Aeronautics Board will be addressing this at their November meeting.